

Ezekiel 24:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Also, thou son of man, shall it not be in the day when I take from them their strength, the joy of their glory, the desire of their eyes, and that whereupon they set their minds, their sons and their daughters,

Analysis

Also, thou son of man, shall it not be in the day when I take from them their strength—God addresses Ezekiel directly (בֶּן־אָדָם, ben-'ādām, 'son of man'). **The joy of their glory** (רִיבוֹן, mā'ôz, 'stronghold/fortress'; מְשׁוֹס תִּפְאַרְתָּם, mēšôś tif'artām, 'joy of their beauty')—metaphors for the Jerusalem temple, Israel's pride and God's earthly dwelling.

The desire of their eyes, and that whereupon they set their minds—נִפְשָׁם נִשְׁפָּן (maśśā' naphshām, 'lifting of their soul') indicates deep emotional attachment. The temple was their supreme treasure, like Ezekiel's wife was to him (v. 16). **Their sons and their daughters**—Many died in the siege; others were taken captive. The prophet describes total loss: religious center, family members, homeland—everything that gave life meaning.

Historical Context

Solomon's temple stood from 966-586 BC (380 years). It represented God's presence, covenant faithfulness, and national identity. Its destruction was psychologically, spiritually, and nationally catastrophic. The temple would not be rebuilt until 516 BC—70 years later, fulfilling Jeremiah's prophecy.

Related Passages

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. What 'temples'—things we consider essential to faith—might God remove to teach us deeper dependence?
2. How can losing what we treasure most become a pathway to knowing God better?
3. What does God's willingness to destroy His own temple teach about His priorities?

Interlinear Text

וְאֵת הַ	בְּנֵיהֶם	אֶדָּם	הֵל וְאֵ	בִּי וְ	קִחָתִּי
H859	Also thou son	of man	H3808	shall it not be in the day	when I take
	H1121	H120		H3117	H3947
מֵהֶם	אֶת	מִעֹזָם	מִשֵּׁשׁ וְ	תִפְאֶרֶתָם	אֶת מִחְמַד
H1992	H853	from them their strength	the joy	of their glory	H853 the desire
		H4581	H4885	H8597	H4261
עֵינֵיהֶם	וְאֵת	מִשֵּׁשׁ אֵ	נַפְשָׁם	בְּנֵיהֶם	
of their eyes	H853	and that whereupon they set	their minds	Also thou son	
H5869		H4853	H5315	H1121	
וּבָנוֹתֵיהֶם:					
and their daughters					
H1323					

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 24:21 (Parallel theme): Speak unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will profane my sanctuary, the excellency of your strength, the desire of your eyes, and that which your soul pitieth; and your sons and your daughters whom ye have left shall fall by the sword.

Psalms 50:2 (Parallel theme): Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God hath shined.

Psalms 48:2 (Parallel theme): Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King.

Jeremiah 11:22 (Parallel theme): Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, Behold, I will punish them: the young men shall die by the sword; their sons and their daughters shall die by famine: